

# Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture (ACAC)

Minutes, April 9, 2015

**Attending:** Commission members: Barbara Costa, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel (chaired), Adria Arch, Jonathan Hyde, Leland Stein, Aimee Taberner, Carla Dorato.

**Absent:** Cultural Liaison Amy Mongeau

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by Stephanie Marlin-Curiel

1. **Minutes** of March 5, 2015, meeting were reviewed and approved.
2. Arlington Public Art's **Chairful Where You Sit** is scheduled for July 10-12; A-TED's **Summer Alive** street fair will now be June 20. The original plan was to have both events on the same weekend to maximize impact; the change speaks to need for increased coordination between cultural organizations.
3. **Cultural District Planning Presentation** – This will be a joint presentation by ACA and A-TED, since the cultural district idea has positive cultural, tourism, and economic benefits. Location has been moved to the Old Schwamb Mill, thanks to Ed Gordon; date remains April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Stephanie Marlin-Curiel and Tom Davison from A-TED will be co-presenters. The new Arlington cultural map, developed by Amy Mongeau, in collaboration with the Planning Department, is completed and will be inserted into the PowerPoint presentation and as a handout. Stephanie Stillman, the executive director of the Concord Chamber of Commerce and manager of the Concord Center Cultural District, has generously agreed to attend the meeting to talk about Concord's experience and answer questions about the application process and ongoing management. The meeting will consist of a PowerPoint presentation and open discussion, then small groups to encourage attendees to share their opinions. 30+ invitations will go out with the expectation that we'll get at least 20 participants. The overarching goal of the presentation is to generate enthusiasm for the idea of a cultural district and to identify cultural and business leaders who are willing to take a leadership role in developing the next steps, which will include identifying the geographic boundaries.
4. **ACAC Budget** request has been approved by the Finance Committee.
5. Final version of the **Town Master Plan** has no mention of ACAC's role in the cultural growth and development of the town despite ACCA commissioners' participation in planning meetings. Barbara Costa will contact Carol Kowalski to discuss ACAC issues.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 7.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.